

**Listing of the Claims:**

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

- 1        1. (Currently amended) A messaging system comprising:  
2            an interactive system for production and interchange of messages by  
3        users over a network;  
4            a time synchronizer for time stamping messages;  
5            an automated topic separator receiving user messages and separating  
6        messages according to different topics, wherein the automated topic separator  
7        includes a language-model topic classifier that estimates a topic of the user  
8        messages and/or parts of the user messages based, at least in part, on their  
9        respective word content, and a final topic separator which separates  
10       messages or parts of messages based on a spacing between their respective  
11       estimated topics and the difference between their respective according to the  
12       words used in the messages and which considers time stampings, such that  
13       messages and parts of messages are separated into different topics when  
14       said spacing between their estimated topics exceeds a threshold, the  
15       threshold being based, at least in part, on the difference between their  
16       respective time stampings, and wherein the threshold, at least in part, is made  
17       smaller as said difference increases;  
18            a user interface, coupled to said topic separator, for representing in a  
19       distinct way parts of messages that were separated by said topic separator,  
20       wherein said user interface displays at least one of messages in windows  
21       according to topic, and messages in different colors according to topic, and  
22       wherein the user interface enables a subgroup of users to conduct a  
23       messaging session separate from other users, within a framework of an  
24       ongoing session or topic.

Claims 2-4. (Canceled)

1     5. (Currently Amended) The messaging system of ~~as-in~~ claim 1, further  
2     comprising a security system for verifying ~~to-verify~~ a user's identity.

1     6. (Currently Amended) The messaging system of ~~as-in~~ claim 5, wherein said  
2     security system includes a database of questions from which random  
3     questions are posed to a user and whereby verification of validity of answers  
4     to posed questions is done by users of the system.

1     7. (Currently Amended) The messaging system of ~~as-in~~ claim 5, wherein said  
2     security system includes a biometric module for verification of a user's identity.

1     8. (Currently amended) A method of conducting a messaging session at a  
2     user's computer between two or more users over a network comprising the  
3     steps of:

4             receiving a message over the network from a user;

5             automatically estimating ~~identifying~~ a topic of the received message  
6     based on words used in the message ~~and considering a time when the~~  
7     ~~message is received~~;

8             determining if a topic of the message is the same as a previous  
9     message, has changed from the a previous message to a previous topic, or is  
10    a new topic, based on the difference between the estimated topic of the  
11    message and the estimated topic of the previous message, and the difference  
12    between their respective time stampings, such that the threshold difference  
13    between their respective estimated topics at which the message is determined  
14    to be the same topic as the previous message changes with respect to the  
15    difference between their respective time stampings;

16             and automatically

17             if a new topic, opening a new window to display the received message,

18             if a same topic as said previous message, displaying the message in a  
19     currently opened window, and

20 if a changed topic displaying the received message in a previously  
21 opened window, and  
22 wherein a subgroup of users comprising at least two users conducts a  
23 messaging session separately from other users.

Claims 9-11. (Canceled)

1 12. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session~~  
2 ~~recited in claim 8~~, further comprising ~~the step of~~ checking a user's identity.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session~~  
2 ~~recited in claim 12~~, wherein said ~~the step of~~ checking a user's identity  
3 comprises ~~the steps of~~ asking the user random questions and evaluating the  
4 user's answers.

1 14. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session~~  
2 ~~recited in claim 13~~, wherein ~~said the step of~~ evaluating the user's answers  
3 includes receiving a verification input from ~~is performed by~~ another user.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session~~  
2 ~~recited in claim 12~~, wherein said the step of checking a user's identity includes  
3 detecting user is performed using biometrics data and comparing the detected  
4 data against a stored data.

Claims 16-17. (Canceled)

1 18. (Currently Amended) The messaging system ~~of~~ as in claim 1, wherein the  
2 automated topic separator generates a query data indicative of no topic being  
3 identifiable for a message, based on an output of the language model  
4 classifier or the time stamp of the message, and wherein the user interface, in

5 response to said query data, displays a query message to at least one user  
6 operable for indicating to the user that when the topic of the a message can  
7 not be decided by the topic separator.

1 19. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session~~  
2 ~~recited in claim 8, wherein the automatically estimating the topic of the~~  
3 ~~received message generates a query data if the topic can not be estimated to~~  
4 ~~a predetermined level decided, and further comprising the step of indicating~~  
5 ~~communicating a query signal to the user in response to said query data that~~  
6 ~~the topic of the received message could not be decided.~~